

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
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Date Issued: 8/16/13  
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**2013 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 19  
Fall Announcement # 16, District 2 Commercial Period 6  
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area**

Through August 15, the cumulative fall chum salmon passage past Pilot Station sonar is approximately 411,755 fish, which is above the historical median of 344,439 fish for that date. The estimated fall chum run size based on run reconstruction through August 15 is 524,000 fish which is above the historical median of 416,000 fish for that date. Based on inseason assessment, the projected fall chum salmon run size is between 700,000 to 900,000 fish. This level of abundance should be adequate to meet escapement and subsistence priorities and provide for commercial harvest.

A second pulse of fall chum salmon entered Yukon River on August 12 and is currently passing the Pilot Station sonar. The estimated size of this pulse is 200,000 fish. After several days of low fall chum salmon catches at the Lower Yukon River test fisheries, catches increased in this morning's drift.

**District Y-2**

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District Y-2 on Saturday, August 17 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period. Gillnets are restricted to a maximum mesh size of 6 inches or less. No Chinook salmon can be sold during this commercial opening. Fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. **Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.**

There has not been a commercial salmon opening in District Y-2 since August 4. The preliminary cumulative commercial harvest for District Y-2 is 35,460 fall chum and 1,109 coho salmon.

District Y-2 commercial fishermen are requested not to fish on the south bank of Yukon River in front of the Pilot Station sonar site from an ADF&G buoy just upstream of the sonar to an ADF&G marker 500 yards downstream. Commercial fishing in this area interferes with sonar operations and can affect fish counts. The department thanks commercial fishermen for their continued cooperation.

In District Y-2 subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days per week except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period. Subsistence fishing in District Y-2 will close at 2:00 a.m. Saturday, August 17 and will reopen at 8:00 a.m. Sunday, August 18.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 or toll free at 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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